

pine and spruce forest a continual delight. The *Oreohelix* were beautiful in colors, quite equal to those neutral brown tints of the Philippine snails.

Everything, all summer long, in *Sonorellas*, *Ashmunellas* and *Oreohelix*, except one *Oreohelix* and one group of *Sonorella*, was found in the rocky slides or talus, and many were dead. I had theories that dry weather, epidemics, insects or fungi had killed them, but most of these theories are also dead, or in a dying condition. Perhaps I did not stay long enough upon one slide to find their home. It is nearly all slide work, and healthy. After sleeping nearly half a year under the stars in the high woods, I am strong as a farmer. Those invalids I chaperoned are well.

Joilet, Ill., Nov., 1913.

PHYSA HETEROSTROPHA SAY IN EUROPE.

BY ZDENKA FRANKENBERGER.

Of late there have appeared in the literature many statements of the presence of *Physa acuta* Drap. in Central Europe. It was found in Leipsic, Gotha, Königsberg, Jena, Dresden, Munich, Copenhagen, Basil, etc., almost always in botanical or other gardens, where it was thought to have been brought in by the aquarists. In the neighborhood of Prague we could confirm some years ago, a species of *Physa* which was remarkable by its size and quite another form of the shell than are the two common Bohemian species of *Physa*, *Physa fontinalis* L. and *Aplexa hypnorum* L. It could not be identified with *Physa acuta*, but it is surely the American species, *Physa heterostropha* Say, as it was stated already in the Catalogue of Bohemian Molluscs¹ by *Babor* and *Novak*. With some care one cannot be mistaken in the right determination of this snail, for both the shell (with thicker walls, a lip in the aperture and of a large size) and the animal (more robust, olivaceous) are quite different from *Physa acuta*, which does not occur in the eastern parts of Europe, and the eastern frontier of the distribution of which is the

¹ Babor u. Novak, Verzeichniss der posttertiären Fauna der böhmischen Weichtiere. Nachrbl. d. deutschen Malakozool. Ges., 1909.

Rhine. But now Dr. *C. R. Boettger*¹ described a new variety of *Physa acuta* from Oppeln in Silesia, which he calls var. *thermalis*. It is said to differ from the type by its larger size, thicker shell and irregular surface. In the same locality lives a species of *Sphærium*, which is described as *Sph. tetensi* sp. n., but the author says that it is quite similar to the American *Sph. simile* Say. From the illustration of the new variety of *Physa acuta* it is evident that there is no *acuta* at all, but that this form is quite identical with the large specimens of *Physa heterostrophæ*, which occurs near Prague of the same size. How the case stands with other records from Central Europe, I dare not say; but it is very probable that all these supposed *Physa acuta* are in reality *P. heterostrophæ*, which was introduced with American fishes and plants of aquaristic commerce, and which found in our waters suitable circumstances of life. On the contrary *Physa acuta* as an animal of warmer regions of Western Europe scarcely could live any long time in the cold waters of our pools and brooks.

NOTES ON THE ANCYLIDÆ OF NORTH AFRICA.

BY BRYANT WALKER SC. D.

Through the great courtesy of M. Paul Pallary of Oran-Eckmuhl, Algeria, the well-known student of North African Mollusca, I have been recently enabled to study his entire collection of North African *Ancylidæ*.

The collection consists of twenty-nine lots, nineteen from Algeria, six from Morocco, one from Tunis and four from Egypt.

In preparing the following notes, which are based mainly on M. Pallary's collection, I have made use of such additional material as I have in my own collection and such of the literature as I have at my disposal.

I am under special obligations to Dr. E. F. Weber of the Natural History Museum of Geneva, Switzerland, for drawings and inval-

¹ C. R. Boettger, Beiträge zur Kenntniss der Molluskenfauna Schlesiens. Nachrbl. d. deutschen Malakozool. Ges., 1913.